



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 22, 2010

Mr. Timothy J. O'Connor  
Site Vice President  
Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant  
Northern States Power Company - Minnesota  
2807 West County Road 75  
Monticello, MN 55362-9637

SUBJECT: MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT (MNGP) – WITHDRAWAL  
FROM NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION STANDARD NFPA-805  
(TAC NO. ME4250)

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

By letter dated July 16, 2010 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML102000433), on behalf of Northern States Power Company - Minnesota (NSPM) you notified the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that the transition to 10 CFR 50.48(c), regarding National Fire Protection Association Standard 805 (NFPA 805), will not be completed for MNGP, and that you are withdrawing NSPM's November 30, 2005, letter of intent (ADAMS Accession No. ML053460342).

In the July 16, 2010, letter you stated that multiple spurious operations due to fire-induced circuit faults will be addressed using guidance from Revision 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.189, "Fire Protection for Nuclear Power Plants." In addition, you stated that MNGP will complete a fire probability risk assessment in conformance with Revision 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.200, "An Approach for Determining the Technical Adequacy of Probabilistic Risk Assessment Results for Risk-Informed Activities."

In a follow-up letter dated September 8, 2010 (ADAMS Accession No. ML102520079), you confirmed that "no formal commitments have been made as part of the transition to 10 CFR 50.48(c)." In such regard, the NRC staff will disposition any issue of concern using the Reactor Oversight Process, since enforcement discretion under the Interim Enforcement Policy Regarding Enforcement Discretion for Certain Fire Protection Issues (10 CFR 50.48) no longer applies. Issues relating to multiple spurious operations due to fire-induced circuit faults that are being addressed using the guidance from Revision 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.189 may be subject to enforcement discretion if identified issues meet the criteria of Enforcement Guidance Memorandum 09-002, "Enforcement Discretion for Fire Induced Circuit Faults."

Since MNGP does not rely on the completion of its transition to 10 CFR 50.48(c) to resolve any issues, the NRC staff accepts your withdrawal of NSPM's November 30, 2005, letter of intent to adopt 10 CFR 50.48(c).

Your July 16, 2010, letter mentioned that Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant Units 1 and 2, whose operating licenses are also held by NSPM, is "continuing efforts to transition the

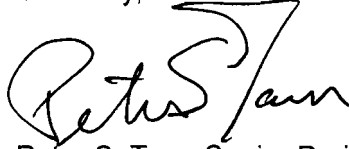
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licensing basis to 10 CFR 50.48(c)." The NRC staff noted this statement but recognizes that Prairie Island is not the subject of this review or of this letter.

If you have any question regarding this matter, I may be reached at 301-415-1451.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter S. Tam". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "P".

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch III-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263

cc: Distribution via ListServ

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Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch III-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-263

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\*via memorandum

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